Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 HA-05 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /094 W

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O R 041530Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7710

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USNMR SHAPE BEL

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLE IT

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASHDC

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BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, TU, US

SUBJECT: INITIAL REACTION TO HIRC VOTE

REF: STATE 113281 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
COMMITTEE (HIRC) VOTE TO REPEAL SECTION 620(X) OF FAA WAS
REPORTED PROMINENTLY IN GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS MAY 4, FIRST
DAY PAPERS RESUMED PUBLICATION AFTER LONG EASTER HOLIDAY.
PAPERS EMPHASIZE CLOSENESS OF VOTE, ESPECIALLY IN
COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS VOTES ON THIS SUBJECT IN

HIRC, AS CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM THAT LIFTING OF EMBARGO WILL NOT BE SUPPORTED BY WHOLE HOUSE. PAPERS ALSO QUOTE POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES IN WASHINGTON AS EXPRESSING CONVICTION THAT TIDE OF OPINION IN CONGRESS IS RUNNING AGAINST ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSAL TO LIFT EMBARGO. NEWS OF HIRC VOTE WAS RECEIVED HERE TOO LATE TO PERMIT EDITORIAL TREATMENT BY PRESS. TURKISH CYPRIOT PAPERS ALSO PROMINENTLY REPORT VOTE BUT WITHOUT EDITORIAL COMMENT.

2. GOC HAS NOT YET COMMENTED ON ACTUAL VOTE, BUT MAY 3 STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU INDICATES LINE GOVERNMENT WILL FOLLOW. COMMENTING ON REPORTS THAT PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT HAD URGED UN SECRETARY GENERAL TO RECONVENE TALKS, KYPRIANOU SAID TURKISH PRIME MINISTER'S REAL AIM IN SUBMITTING PROPOSALS WAS TO PROVIDE U.S. ADMINISTRATION WITH ARGUMENTS TO USE WITH CONGRESS TO LIFT EMBARGO. KYPRIANOU WENT ON TO SAY, "I LIKE TO BELIEVE THAT THE MAJORITY OF CONGRESSMEN WILL NOT WALK INTO THIS TRAP." END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LOU: COMMENT: WE BELIEVE GOC WILL NOT ATTACH GREAT DEAL OF SIGNIFICANCE TO HIRC VOTE BUT WILL CONCENTRATE ITS EFFORTS ON BLOCKING REPEAL OF 620(X) ON HOUSE FLOOR. IT WILL CONTINUE TO LAMBASTE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS AS RETROGRESSIVE, NOT CONSTITUTING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROGRESS ON CYPRUS, AND THEREFORE NOT JUSTIFYING LIFTING OF EMBARGO. END LOU. STONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: VOTING, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, ARMS EMBARGO

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 04 may 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NICOSI01145
Document Source: ID: 02

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D780190-1135 Format: TEL From: NICOSIA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Expiration:

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780593/aaaadbnr.tel

Line Count: 97 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 0ee398a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 STATE 113281

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:**

Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2793284 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: INITIAL REACTION TO HIRC VOTE

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, TU, US

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0ee398a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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